

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the present application, claims 1-8, 11-25, 27, 34-37 and 40-47 are pending. Claims 1-8, 11-25, 27, 34-37 and 40-47 are rejected. By this amendment, claims 2 and 14 have been amended. Claim 41 has been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

The support for the amendments to claims 2 and 14 may at least be found at page 9, paragraph [0054] through page 18, paragraph [0093]; and, in the specification, claims and figures as originally filed.

The Examiner has objected to Claim 41 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 4.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-13, 17, 23, 24, 27, 34-37, 40, 42, 44 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Aoki United States Patent Publication No. 2001/0056310.

The Examiner rejected claims 14, 20, 21 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Madden et al. (U.S.P.N. 6,516,239).

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki as applied to claims 3, 7, 12, 17 and 24 above, and further in view of Pappas (U.S.P.N. 6,338,045).

The Examiner rejected claims 15, 16, 19, 43 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Aoki as applied to claims 1, 2, 6, 11 and 12 above, and further in view of Pappas.

The Examiner rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Madden et al. as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Pappas.

Objection to Claim 41 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75

The Examiner has objected to Claim 41 under 37 C.F.R. §1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 4. In response to the Examiner's objection, Applicants have cancelled claim 41. The objection to claim 41 is now moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-13, 17, 23, 24, 27, 34-37, 40, 42, 44 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Aoki (United States Patent Publication No. 2001/0056310).

In framing his objection, the Examiner refers to the flowchart of Figure 3 of Aoki, which is described and taught at paragraphs [0042]-[0054] of Aoki.

Applicants' amended independent claim 2 now recites the following:

"2. A computerized method assisting the routing of a part, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one computer;

receiving part identifier information; and

generating a tag for affixing to said part, said tag having information thereon responsive to said part identifier information;

evaluating a characteristic of said part based upon said information on said tag to determine a disposition of said part;

modifying said disposition of said part, if necessary, relative to a disposition of a second part;

receiving said disposition of said part; and

generating a new tag for affixing to said part, said tag having information thereon responsive to said part characteristic;

wherein said user can review said information on said tag and route said part accordingly."

In contrast to Applicants' amended independent claim 2, Aoki neither describes nor teaches the modification of the disposition of a part relative to the disposition of another part with respect to assisting the routing of that original part. For example, Aoki neither describes nor teaches how one skilled in the art would incorporate another part, for example, a new part, an unexpected part or a replacement part, in the flowchart of Figure 3, or elsewhere in the teachings of Aoki, if such a part was introduced. Moreover, Aoki neither describes nor teaches the implementation of its method illustrated in Figure 3 with respect to a part as recited in Applicants' amended claim 2. Rather Aoki's description and teachings are drawn to an entire product, that is, a semiconductor product, and not the product's respective parts. In fact, the only "part" mentioned in Aoki refers specifically to "print indication area 201" and its two parts that appear on a rewritable card at paragraph [0039].

For the aforementioned mentioned reasons, Applicants' amended independent claim 2, and claims 40 and 42 which ultimately depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Aoki under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicants' respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claims 2, 40 and 42 under 35

U.S.C. §102(b) and the reconsideration and allowance of claims 2, 40 and 42.

The Examiner rejected claims 14, 20, 21 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Madden et al. (U.S.P.N. 6,516,239).

In framing his objection, the Examiner refers to the description and teachings of Madden at col. 4, lines 10-54; col. 15, lines 35-55; col. 16, lines 29-64; and, col. 22, line 47- col. 23, line 17.

Applicants' amended independent claim 14 now recites the following:

"14. A computerized method of dispositioning of parts, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one computer;

receiving part identifier information for a first part;

determining a disposition of said first part responsive to said first part identifier information;

receiving part identifier information for a second part to said computer;

determining a disposition of said second part responsive to said second part identifier;

determining whether said second part disposition requires adjustment to said first part disposition; and

if necessary, modifying said first part disposition and modifying said second part disposition in response to said first part disposition modification;

wherein a user reviews said first and second part dispositions and dispositions said first and second parts accordingly."

Unlike Applicants' amended independent claim 14, Madden neither describes nor teaches modifying or adjusting the disposition of a part with respect to another part. While Madden prioritizes the delayed vehicle, the disposition of the other vehicle is not modified. Unlike Madden, Applicants' amended independent claim 14 includes the step of "if necessary, modifying said first part disposition and modifying said second part disposition in response to said first part disposition modification;", which is neither described nor taught by Madden.

For the aforementioned mentioned reasons, Applicants' amended independent claim 14, and claims 20 and 21 which ultimately depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Madden under 35 U.S.C. §102(b). Applicants' respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claims 14, 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and the reconsideration and allowance of claims 14, 20 and 21.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Aoki as applied to claims 3, 7, 12, 17 and 24 above, and further in view of Pappas.

Aoki fails to teach, suggest or motivate one skilled in the art all of the elements of Applicants' independent claims 1, 6, 12 and 23, from which claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45 ultimately depend. Pappas fails to correct the deficiencies of Aoki.

For the aforementioned mentioned reasons, Applicants' claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45, which ultimately depend from

Applicants' independent claims 1, 6, 12 and 23, are patentable over Aoki in view of Pappas under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants' respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and the reconsideration and allowance of claims 4, 8, 18, 25, 41 and 45.

The Examiner rejected claims 15, 16, 19, 43 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Aoki as applied to claims 1, 2, 6, 11 and 12 above, and further in view of Pappas.

As discussed above, Aoki fails to describe and teach all of the elements of Applicants' amended independent claim 2. For example, Aoki also fails to suggest the step of "modifying said disposition of said part, if necessary, relative to a disposition of a second part;" as recited in Applicants' amended independent claim 2.

In framing the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner relies upon the teachings, suggestion and motivation of Pappas at col. 1, line 10 through col. 2, line 3 and col. 5, lines 21-40. The teachings, suggestion and motivation of Pappas address instances where one is trying to prevent the use of an unapproved part or a bogus part in an aircraft. However, Pappas fails to look beyond such scenarios. Consequently, Pappas fails to correct the deficiencies of Aoki.

For the aforementioned mentioned reasons, Applicants' claim 43, which ultimately depends from amended independent claim 2, is patentable over Aoki in view of Pappas under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants' respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claim 43 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and the reconsideration and allowance of claim 43.

The Examiner rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Madden et al. as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Pappas.

As discussed above, Madden fails to describe and teach all of the elements of Applicants' amended independent claim 14. For example, Madden also fails to suggest the step of "if necessary, modifying said first part disposition and modifying said second part disposition in response to said first part disposition modification;" as recited in Applicants' amended independent claim 14.

In framing the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner relies upon the teachings, suggestion and motivation of Pappas at col. 1, line 10 through col. 2, line 3 and col. 5, lines 21-40. As discussed above, the teachings, suggestion and motivation of Pappas address instances where one is trying to prevent the use of an unapproved part or a bogus part in an aircraft. However, Pappas fails to look beyond such scenarios. As a result, Pappas fails to correct the deficiencies of Madden.

For the aforementioned mentioned reasons, Applicants' claim 22, which ultimately depends from amended independent claim 14, is patentable over Madden in view of Pappas under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants' respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection to claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and the reconsideration and allowance of claim 22.

Conclusion

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would

be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 21-0279.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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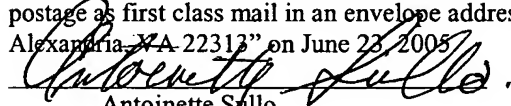
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on June 23, 2005.


Antoinette Sullo